

Remarks

Claims 1 and 45-65 are in the Application. Reconsideration is respectfully requested.

Request For Withdrawal Of Premature Final Rejection

Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the finality of the rejection in the Action. Applicants respectfully submit that the Final rejection should be withdrawn because claims 64-65 were not previously rejected. As noted in Applicants' Response filed January 11, 2005, the status of claims 64-65 was uncertain. Because of the premature finality of the rejection, Appellants have not been given a proper opportunity to respond in accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.111.

The Claims Rejections

Claims 1 and 45-65 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as obvious over Youn (US 6,592,118) in view of Shepherd (US 6,484,938).

Claim 1

The Action (at page 2, last paragraph) admits that Youn does not teach or suggest a "cassette being operative to receive media guided thereinto [by] the partition while in an automated banking machine."

Shepherd does not teach or suggest a *cassette having* a "movable partition." Nor does Shepherd (like Youn) teach or suggest a cassette that, *while in* an automated banking machine, can receive media guided thereinto by a movable partition (of the cassette). Nor does Shepherd, contrary to the Action's allegation, teach or suggest replenishing a cassette in an ATM. Rather, in Shepherd a cassette is replenished while it is located *outside* of an ATM (e.g., col. 8, lines 16-19). Shepherd does not provide support for the allegation that the cassette replenishing terminal (10), which requires use by an authorized operator, is an ATM (col. 1, lines 58-64; col. 4, line 67; col. 5, line 40).

It follows that even if it were somehow possible to modify Youn with the teaching of Shepherd, the modification still would not have resulted in the recited invention. The Office has not established a *prima facie* showing of obviousness.

For reasons previously discussed, the references, taken alone or in combination, also do not teach or suggest the recited features and relationships of the other pending claims.

Allowance of all of Applicants' pending claims is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,



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